

Cibola Beacon- October 25, 2010

Last Thursday, Harry Teague announced a new initiative to honor and preserve the stories of the Bataan Death March Survivors, some of New Mexico's most courageous and distinguished veterans. Teague is partnering with the Library of Congress' "Veteran's History Project" and local universities to capture and record the stories of these heroes.

"As a member of the House Veterans' Affairs committee, I believe that it is important to recognize the sacrifices of all of our veterans. Part of that effort must be to chronicle the stories of the survivors of the Bataan Death March," Harry Teague wrote in a letter to the local universities and colleges throughout southern New Mexico. "As this generation of veterans gets older, I would like to capture their stories so that future generations of New Mexicans and Americans across the country can learn about the sacrifices they made for their country. I would like to embark upon an endeavor to collaborate with university students in our state to help document these harrowing tales so that all will be able to remember what they suffered to maintain freedom not only in America, but all across the globe."

### Local journalists wanted

Local journalism students are encouraged to apply for internships with Teague's office for this special project. Interns would assist in locating Bataan Death March survivors and meeting with them to collect and record their stories. The first round of interviews will begin this Veterans Day, November 11, to mark the holiday and recognize those who bravely fought to protect our country.

Teague is also looking for all New Mexico Bataan Death March Survivors to participate in the series of interviews. The project is part of the American Folklife Center. Its aim is a project that "collects, preserves and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war."

Interested survivors, candidates or anyone with questions should contact Art Terrazas in Teague's Las Cruces office at [art.terrazas@mail.house.gov](mailto:art.terrazas@mail.house.gov) or by calling 1-575-525-3908.